



FENCE-FREE SIDEWALK CAFÉ PILOT PERMIT

Summer 2016

PROJECT OVERVIEW

A recent change by the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board allows sidewalk cafés serving alcohol to have the option to use pavement markers instead of the standard 42-inch high barrier. SDOT is piloting this fence-free design option, which is intended to help restaurants integrate their sidewalk cafés with adjacent public space and improve customer movement in and around the café area.



Example of pavement markers. SDOT-provided markers will be 6 inches in diameter and must be located every 10 feet along the entire perimeter of the café.



Diverters (example above) or other optional elements may be used in addition to the required pavement markers.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Eligible businesses must:

- Hold a restaurant liquor license for their establishment *or* not serve alcohol at all
- Provide table service within the café space
- Have a dedicated attendant, wait staff, or server in the outside service area when in use
- Be able to locate the sidewalk café directly against their building (if serving alcohol)

Businesses not eligible for the pilot:

- Curbside cafés and stateries serving alcohol
- Businesses seeking fence-free sidewalk cafés on platform structures
- Establishments with other forms of liquor licenses (e.g. taverns, breweries, wineries, nightclubs).

Meeting minimum criteria does not guarantee entry into this pilot.

APPLICATION PROCESS

For applicants, the fence-free pilot will be similar to the existing sidewalk café permit process, including the same fees. Refer to SDOT's [Client Assistance Memo 2503](#) on Sidewalk Café Permits for a full list of requirements. All requirements remain consistent, with three exceptions:

- **Fence design.** Instead of submitting a fence design, provide a site plan showing the preferred location of the pavement markers and any optional elements.
- **Liquor license documentation.** Provide a copy of your Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board issued restaurant liquor license to ensure that your business is eligible.
- **Description of diverters or additional elements (optional).** If you will be using diverters or other elements such as planters, provide a detailed description about what you plan to use.

Permit review may take longer than normal in this pilot as SDOT considers a wide variety of factors during the permit review process. We appreciate your patience as we work out the details and look forward to your feedback.

PROJECT INFORMATION & CONTACT

www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/public-space-management-programs/sidewalk-cafes
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